

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An extraneous matter removing system for a steam turbine comprising a casing[[,]] defining a duct, and turbine blades provided with a moving blade which rotates together with a rotor and a stator blade which is located on the upstream side of said moving blade and is held on the casing side and are housed in said duct, wherein the duct is operatively positioned to introduce a fluid to the turbine blades and said moving blade is rotated by [[a]] said fluid introduced into said duct, wherein said system comprises:

a pressure gage operatively positioned for detecting the pressure between the stator blade and the moving blade ~~in said duct~~;

a first water injection nozzle disposed in said stator blade and connected to a water supply source via a first valve; and

a control unit for regulating the opening of said first valve according to the pressure detected by said pressure gage so that the valve is opened when the detected pressure has a value between a predetermined minimum pressure and a predetermined maximum pressure so that extraneous matter adhering to the surface of a turbine blade is removed by water injected from said first water injection nozzle.

2. (Original) The extraneous matter removing system for a turbine according to claim 1, wherein said system further comprises means for removing extraneous matter adhering to the surface of said stator blade by injecting water from said first water injection nozzle onto the surface of said stator blade.

3. (Original) The extraneous matter removing system for a turbine according to claim 1, wherein said system further comprises means for removing extraneous matter adhering to the back surface of said moving blade by injecting water from said first water injection nozzle to the back surface side of said moving blade.

4. (Original) The extraneous matter removing system for a turbine according to claim 1, wherein said moving blade is subjected to surface reforming to prevent said moving blade from being damaged by water injected from said first water injection nozzle.

5. (Currently Amended) An extraneous matter removing system for a steam turbine comprising a casing[[,]] defining a duct and turbine blades provided with a moving blade which rotates together with a rotor and a stator blade which is located on the upstream side of said moving blade and is held on the casing side and are housed in a duct, wherein the duct is operatively positioned to introduce a fluid to the turbine blades and said moving blade is rotated by [[a]] said fluid introduced into said duct, wherein said system comprises:

a pressure gage operatively positioned for detecting the pressure between the stator blade and the moving blade in said duct;

a water injection nozzle disposed at a position upstream said stator blade and connected to a water supply source via a valve; and

a control unit for regulating the opening of said valve according to the pressure detected by said pressure gage, so that the valve is opened when the detected pressure has a value between a predetermined minimum pressure and a predetermined maximum pressure so that extraneous matter adhering to the surface of a turbine blade is removed by water injected from said water injection nozzle.

6. (Previously presented) The extraneous matter removing system for a turbine according to claim 2, wherein said stator blade is subjected to surface reforming to prevent said stator blade from being damaged by the injected water.

7. (Previously presented) The extraneous matter removing system for a turbine according to claim 5, wherein said stator blade is subjected to surface reforming to prevent said stator blade from being damaged by the injected water.